

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A broad spectrum, synergistic biocidal composition comprising a mixture of a biocidal cyclic hydroxymethyl oxazolidine containing less than 0.1 wt.% free formaldehyde and between about 0.1 and about 10 wt.% of iodopropynyl butylcarbamate in an aqueous solution of a polyhydroxide of a C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> aliphatic hydrocarbon, a phenoxyethanol or a mixture thereof.
2. The composition of claim 1 wherein said solution is an aqueous solution of a compound selected from the group consisting of a C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> diol, phenoxyethanol optionally alkoxyated with a C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>3</sub> alkoxy group, polyethylene glycol and mixtures thereof.
3. The composition of claim 2 wherein said solution is an aqueous solution of butanediol, phenoxyethanol or a mixture thereof.
4. The composition of claim 1 wherein said cyclic hydroxymethyl oxazolidine is bicyclic hydroxymethyl oxazolidine.
5. The composition of one of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the composition contains between 0.1 and 5 wt.% of iodopropynyl butylcarbamate.
6. The composition of one of claims 1, 2, 3 or 4 wherein the weight ratio of hydroxymethyl oxazolidine to iodopropynyl butyl carbamate is between about 10:1 and about 100:1.

7. The process of preparing the composition of claim 1 which comprises:

- (a) forming a uniform slurry of paraformaldehyde in a liquid selected from the group consisting of an aqueous solution of a polyhydroxide of a C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> hydrocarbon, phenoxyethanol, ethoxylated or propoxylated phenoxyethanol, polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol or a mixture thereof;
- (b) heating the slurry to a temperature of from about 35 to about 60°C;
- (c) introducing a 0.75 to 5 molar excess of tris(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane into said slurry;
- (d) agitating the mixture of (c) while constantly maintaining said excess of tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane until completion of the reaction indicated by the formation of the substantially pure cyclic hydroxymethyl oxazolidine in a clear solution;
- (e) adding between about 0.1 and about 10 wt.% of iodopropynyl butylcarbamate, based on said oxazolidine, to the product of step (d);
- (f) constantly agitating the contents of (e) until a second clear solution is formed and

recovering the solution of (f) as the solution of composition of iodopropynyl butylcarbamate/cyclic hydroxymethyl oxazolidine containing less than 0.1 wt.% free formaldehyde.

8. The process of claim 7 wherein said aqueous solution in step (a) is butanediol or phenoxyethanol or a mixture thereof.

9. A personal care formulation containing 0.05 to 1.0 wt.% biocidal amount of the composition of one of claims 1, 2, 3 or 4.

10. A personal care formulation containing a biocidal amount between 0.05 and 1.0 wt.% of the composition of claim 1.

11. The personal care formulation of claim 10 selected from the group consisting of a hair spray, hair dye, skin lotion and hair conditioner.

12. An industrial formulation selected from the group of a paint, adhesive, ink, pigment dispersion or slurry, paper pulp mixture, latex emulsion, metalworking fluid, caulk and sealant containing between about 0.05-1.0 wt.% of the composition of one of claims 1, 2, 3 or 4.